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(54) Title: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR FACILITATING VISUALIZATION IN A SURGICAL ENVIRONMENT

(57) Abstract: Devices for visually confirming the positioning of a distal end portion of an illuminating device placed within a patient, include inserting a distal end portion of an illuminating device internally into a patient, emitting light from the distal end portion of the illuminating device, observing transillumination resulting from the light emitted from the distal end portion of the illuminating device that occurs on an external surface of the patient, and correlating the location of the observed transillumination on the external surface of the patient with an internal location of the patient that underlies the location of observed transillumination, to confirm positioning of the distal end portion of the illuminating device.

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A. CLAS	SSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER A61B 5/00(2006.01)				
USPC: According to	600/585 International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both nat	ional clas	sification and IPC		
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B. FIELI	DS SEARCHED				
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C. DOCU	UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where a	ppropriate	e, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	
X Y	EP 0355996 A2 (GOLDENBERG et al.) 28 February	/ 1990 (28	3.02.1990), entire document.	1-5, 8-28, 33-35, 45, 47, 48, 53-55, 58, 59, 69-71	
				6, 7, 29-32, 36-44, 46, 52, 56, 57, 60-68, 77, 84, 85, 88, 89, 92-103	
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Further	documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.		See patent family annex.		
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Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No. 46, 72, 78, 90, 91 56, 57 36-44, 60-68, 85, 92- 103 49, 50
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